

Appendix A: Glossary

Anaerobic Digestion	The process by which organic material is broken down by micro-organisms in the absence of oxygen. This process results in emission of a CO ₂ - and methane rich biogas that can be collected and used as an energy source. The digestate can then be landfilled or composted.
Beyond Waste	The ultimate message behind the State of Washington Solid Waste Management Plan. Beyond Waste focuses on achieving a state where waste is viewed as inefficient and toxic substances have been eliminated.
Biosolids	Municipal sewage sludge that is a primarily organic, semisolid product resulting from the wastewater treatment process and can be beneficially recycled.
Built Green®	A market-driven green building program usually administered by local homebuilders association chapters. The focus of this program is to promote and certify green construction in the residential sector.
Byproduct synergy	The principle underlying by-product synergy is that one industry's waste can be another's primary resource.
Commercial Solid Waste	All types of solid waste generated by stores, offices, restaurants, warehouses and other non-manufacturing activities, excluding residential and industrial wastes.
Commingled Recycling	A method of recovery and/or collection where recyclable commodities are mixed together and sorted at a material recovery facility (MRF).
Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs)	A type of fluorescent lamp typically designed to replace an incandescent lamp. Like all fluorescent lamps, CFLs contain mercury, which complicates their disposal.
Composting	The biological degradation and transformation of organic solid waste under controlled conditions designed to promote aerobic decomposition.
Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG)	A dangerous waste generator whose dangerous wastes are not subject to regulation under Chapter 70.105 RCW, Hazardous Waste Management, solely because the waste is generated or accumulated in quantities below the threshold for regulation and meets the conditions prescribed in WAC 173-303-070 (8)(b).
Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D)	(Construction, Demolition and Land-clearing Debris (CDL)) The waste material that results from construction, demolition and land clearing, largely comprised of inert and organic material. Consists of, but is not limited to the following materials: wood waste, concrete, asphalt, gypsum wallboard, glass and scrap metal.
Contamination	Garbage in recyclable materials.

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Dangerous Waste	Discarded, useless, unwanted or abandoned substances, including but not limited to certain pesticides, or any residues or containers of such substances which are disposed of in such quantity or concentration as to pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, wildlife or the environment because such wastes or constituents or combinations of such wastes: a) have short-lives, toxic properties that may cause death, injury or illness or have mutagenic, teratogenic or carcinogenic properties, or: b) are corrosive, explosive, flammable or may generate pressure through decomposition or other means.
Discards	Items or materials cast aside because they are no longer wanted or needed.
Designated Recyclables	Wastes separated for recycling or reuse, such as paper, metals and plastics that are identified as recyclable material pursuant to a local comprehensive solid waste plan.
Diversion	Materials that are taken out of the waste stream. Any method of recycling, energy production or beneficial use that prevents disposition of material in landfills or incinerators.
E-Cycle Washington	Washington's producer-funded recycling program for computers, monitors, laptops and televisions.
E-Waste	(Electronic Waste): Waste products produced as a result of spent, unusable or unwanted electronics. Examples include computer monitors, televisions, and desktop or laptop computers.
Environmental Justice	The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.
Flow Control	A local or state government having the authority to direct municipal solid waste (MSW) to certain facilities.
Green Building	Reducing the physiological and environmental effects caused by the construction, operation, maintenance and demolition of buildings.
Green Purchasing	Also known as environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) or responsible purchasing. The procurement of products or services that cause less harm to human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose.
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)	Any waste that exhibits the properties of dangerous wastes, but is exempt from dangerous waste regulations solely because households generate it. Those substances identified by the Washington State Department of Ecology as hazardous household substances in the guidelines developed under RCW 70.105.220 (LHWMP Guidelines).
Intermodal Facility	Any facility operated for the purpose of transporting closed containers of waste and the containers are not opened for further treatment, processing or consolidation of the waste.
Landfill	A disposal facility or part of a facility at which solid waste is permanently placed in or on land including facilities that use solid waste as a component of fill.

LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. A green building rating and certification system developed by the United States Green Building Council.
Local Hazardous Waste Management Plan (LHWMP)	A county's plan to meet the law pursuant to RCW 70.105.220.
Washington Materials Management and Financing Authority (MMFA or WMMFA)	The manufacturer authority created by state law to handle the recycling of certain electronics in the state of Washington.
Material Recovery Facility (MRF)	Any facility that collects, compacts, repackages, sorts or processes for transport source separated solid waste for recycling.
Moderate Risk Waste (MRW)	Solid waste that is limited to conditionally exempt small quantity generator (CESQG) waste and household hazardous waste (HHW) as defined in Chapter WAC 173-350.
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	A subset of solid waste that includes unsegregated garbage, refuse and similar solid waste material discarded from residential, commercial, institutional and industrial sources and community activities, including residue after recyclables have been separated.
Organics (organic materials)	Organic materials that include landscaping and yard waste, food waste, manures, crop residues, wood, soiled/low-grade paper, and biosolids.
Product Stewardship	Product stewardship is achieved when those who produce, sell, use, or dispose of a product assume responsibility for the product's environmental, social, and economic costs throughout the product's life cycle.
Recycling	Transforming or remanufacturing waste materials into usable or marketable materials for use other than landfill disposal or incineration.
Solid Waste	All putrescible and nonputrescible solid and semisolid wastes including, but not limited to garbage, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, swill, sewage sludge, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles or parts thereof, contaminated soils and contaminated dredged material, and recyclable materials.
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)	An advisory committee established at the local level within each planning jurisdiction and at the state level. Assists in development of programs and policies concerning solid waste handling and disposal and to review and comment on proposed rules, policies, or ordinances prior to their adoption.
Source Separation	The separation of different kinds of solid waste at the place where the waste originates.
State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)	A way to identify possible environmental impacts that may result from governmental decisions.
Sustainability	Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

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Transfer Station	A permanent, fixed, supplemental collection and transportation facility used by persons and route collection vehicles to deposit collected solid waste from offsite into a larger transfer vehicle for transport to a solid waste handling facility.
Waste Characterization	The composition and ratio of materials in the total waste stream. Also sometimes referred to as a “waste audit.”
Waste Prevention	Also sometimes referred to as waste reduction or “precycling.” The practice of minimizing waste through responsible purchasing and consumerism. Essentially, removing waste from the waste stream by not creating it in the first place.
Wood Waste	Solid waste consisting of wood pieces or particles generated as a byproduct of waste from the manufacturing of wood products, construction, demolition, handling and storage of raw materials, trees and stumps. Includes, but not limited to sawdust, chips, shavings, bark, pulp, hogged fuel and log sort yard waste. Does not include wood pieces or particles containing paint, laminates, bonding agents or chemical preservatives such as creosote, pentachlorophenol or copper-chrome-arsenate.
Yard Waste/Debris	Plant material commonly created in the course of maintaining yards and gardens and through horticulture, gardening, landscaping or similar activities. Includes, but not limited to, grass clippings, leaves, branches, brush, weeds, flowers, roots, windfall fruit and vegetable garden debris.